

**Village of Pawnee
Board of Trustees
Minutes of August 13, 2007**

Call to Order

- President Manning called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call

- Village Clerk, Cynthia Kramer, called roll
- Trustees in attendance: Steven Gudgel, Phillip Thompson, Tom Bowen, Terry Woodcock and Bill Miller
- Trustee/s Absent: Jeff Thomas

- Also in attendance: Chief Bowsher, Garry Whitson, Pawnee Water Commissioner, Otter Lake Water Commission; Dennis Ross, General Manager, Otter Lake Water Commission; Otter Lake Camper's Association members Diana McLaughlin, Don McLaughlin, Pat Bouillon, Hal Kitchen, Bill Smith, Bill Mecking, Glen Mester, Patsy Mester, Terry Davis, Chuck McLaughlin, Sandy and Ron Franke, Robert Nicol, Betty Lou Nicol and spokesperson Everett Lingleo; Pawnee Township Road Commissioner Stanley Lederbrand; Casey Pratt, Sangamon County Highway Department; Eric Johnson, Farm Bureau, Taylorville; Jay Johnson, Waverly; Lavern Crull, Taylorville; local farmers Don Skinner, Kendall Fry, Tom Lederbrand, David, Skinner, Tom Sloman, Tom Boarman, Bill Shaw, Gary Hamilton, Sam Burtle, Denny Seiz and spokesperson Mike Dozier; Pawnee Unit School District #11 Superintendent Lyle Rigdon; Patty Williams, Co-Vice President, Pawnee Area Chamber of Commerce, attorney John Myers (arrived at 7:20 p.m.)

Recognition/Comment/s of Visitor/s

- Mayor Manning first recognized the Otter Lake Camper's Association and its spokesperson Everett Lingleo. Lingleo, assorted Association members, Mayor Manning, village trustees, Water Commission Manager Dennis Ross, Pawnee Water Commissioner Garry Whitson and attorney John Myers spent over an hour discussing Association concerns regarding the Water Commission taking over management of the campground by not renewing a long-term lease with current manager Peggy Roberts. The group discussed the 1997 Water Commission ordinance that allowed campers ten years to meet compliance with standards/specs for "improvements" such as decks, docks, screened patios, etc. Members were also concerned about a new regulation regarding the sale and transfer of leases. Ross explained the new regulation states that campers are no longer allowed to transfer their lease, not even to family members. They can sell their campers, but that person buying that camper, buys it pulling it out. Whatever structure/improvement is there, if the camper is not going to continue the lease, according to the lease, the camper is to return the property to its original condition and take all of the structure/improvement with them. This is to ensure that those people on the waiting list for campsites can come in and lease a site. Presently campers pay between \$600 and \$700 to lease a site for a year, and the lease may be renewed each year. Trustee Tom Bowen asked Lingleo if the Campers Association had brought forth legal action against the Water Commission. Lingleo replied the Association is following all avenues to resolve this situation and that is one avenue. Both Bowen and Manning stated they did not know how this matter was going to be resolved and that the Village of Pawnee really does not have any authority in this matter. As such, Mayor Manning ended the discussion.
- Mike Dozier speaking for local farmers addressed village trustees regarding the soon to be IDOT posted weight restriction of 15 tons for the Route 104 Horse Creek Bridge. Farmers stated that the posting in essence would close the bridge to them and alternate routes to Waverly would cost them thousands of dollars in man-hours, fuel costs and delivery time. Farmer Kendall Fry told trustees he is looking at between \$50,000 and \$100,000 in additional costs to get his grain to Waverly. They requested the village grant permission to use an alternate route that would permit the trucks to use the residential streets, Washington and Thirteenth, to bypass the bridge. Both the Mayor and trustees said no, citing safety concerns, especially since school is about to start, and the cost to village streets regarding maintenance and repair. Instead, trustees suggested the farmers contact their state representatives, Sangamon County Board representative, Christine Reed/IDOT to see if the state would be willing to delay the weight restriction until after harvest. Farmers left with several phone numbers.

- Lyle Rigdon, Superintendent, Pawnee Community School District #11 had one request of the board. He requested that the off duty Pawnee police officer that handles security at the school during events such as football and basketball games be in uniform rather than plain dress, citing safety concerns for the officer. Trustees opted to send the matter to the Police Committee for review and discussion as Mr. Rigdon's request could effect scheduling and pay.
- Patty Williams gave a very brief report regarding the placement of the tent for the Culpepper and Merriweather Circus event, advertising, ticket sales.

Clerk's Comments

- Minutes of July 23, 2007 were presented for review and approval.
Motion made by Trustee Thompson to approve the minutes of July 23, 2007 as presented.
Second by Trustee Gudgel
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (5-0)

Gas and Water Committee Report

- The Gas and Water Committee Report was not given due to the absence of Trustee Jeff Thomas, unable to attend due to illness.

Park Committee Report

- Committee Chairman Terry Woodcock reported that the "Jumbo Movie" held at Schultz Park on August 3 went pretty well, adding that we (the committee) will have better ideas the next time. She added that the park restrooms need some type of hand drying mechanism and that the committee will be looking at air dryers. She added the committee would like to purchase a plexi-glass marquee with lock to be used at the park for public notification of current and future events.
- Regarding the village purchase of Washington Street floodplain lots, the Park Committee is discussing the possibility of putting in a small baseball or T-ball diamond on the southeast corner and maybe on the north side, a soccer field. We would like to develop some recreational type area for the southeast portion of the village.
- Everything looks pretty well set for the circus scheduled for August 31; however, she needs to meet with the police regarding traffic control and parking.
- Trustees noted that Gary (Eby) and summer employees did a wonderful job getting the park ready for the Jumbo Movie showing and that this group of summer student employees may be the best group ever hired.

Personnel & Finance Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowen

- Bills Payable was presented for approval
Motion made by Trustee Bowen to accept the bills payable as presented.
Second by Trustee Thompson
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (5-0)
- The Personnel and Finance Committee and the Police Committee met to discuss constructing a new three-bay police garage and the proposed expansion of the village garage to also include a three-bay garage area for police use. We will be getting bids, one for each proposed structure and one for a combined structure. Jim Wilson is in the process of appraising the existing police garage.

Streets, Alleys and Sidewalk Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Bowen

- Village employees are trying the best they can to work in this heat. The employees finished work on Fourth Street and are currently trimming brush, working alleys, patching streets and readying equipment for winter.

Police Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Miller

- Motion made by Trustee Woodcock to approve the police report as presented.
Second by Trustee Gudgel
Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes and Miller-yes
Motion Carried (5-0)
- Chief Bowsher informed trustees the new police vehicle, a Dodge Charger, would be delivered the following day and that a check is needed for payment.

Motion made by Trustee Bill Miller to authorize Treasurer Glenn Smith to write a check for \$25,060 for the purchase of a new police vehicle, with complete police package.

Second by Trustee Gudgel

Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-no and Miller-yes

Motion Carried (4-1)

*Woodcock stated she voted no as the hemi engine was not needed.

Motion made by Trustee Gudgel to purchase "WatchGuard" a digital in-car video system for the new police unit.

Second by Trustee Bowen

Roll Call Vote Taken: Gudgel-yes, Thompson-yes, Bowen-yes, Woodcock-yes and Miller-yes

Motion Carried (5-0)

*Woodcock stated she voted yes because she believes in safety for police officers.

Sewer Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Thompson

- The village purchased a new concrete saw; the expenditure and split-out among departments was previously approved.
- Approved the Washington Street clean-up
- Had to tow the vac truck and it is in for repairs.
- Turned over all the information received regarding various types, associated costs, possible locations for new event sign to replace aging sign at east end of village to Park Committee Chairman Terry Woodcock.

Zoning Committee Report: Committee Chair, Trustee Gudgel

- A Zoning Hearing will be held on Thursday, August 30, 2007 at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall to hear a variance request for 903 Franklin Street, to erect a building in excess of 480 square feet.

Unfinished Business

- Mayor Manning met with Stacey Ashbaker to discuss and work on updating the village web site. He will have copies of service agreement for trustee to review. He noted the approximate fee is \$2600, quite reasonable for services rendered.

New Business/Correspondence

- None

Mayor's Comments

- Mayor Manning asked if trustees received the information regarding the fall gas management meeting.
- Mayor Manning noted that Trustee Tom Bowen had a good idea regarding the "Safe School Project" since the village is looking at taking care of engineering fees in respect to any safe school project. He stated he would speak with Michelle Landrey and will have more information available later. Shelly Craigmiles will remain as the contact person for Pawnee Schools.
- Mayor Manning noted the Department of Commerce is looking at the 2010 Census
- He also asked if trustees noticed the amount of "pork" money available as Pawnee put in a request for \$35,000 while other communities asked for so much more.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Trustee Gudgel to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Trustee Woodcock

Voice Vote Taken: Five ayes, 0 nays

Motion Carried (5-0)

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m. on Monday, August 13, 2007. The next scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Village Board of Trustees is Monday, August 27, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Respectfully Submitted

Cynthia S. Kramer
Village Clerk